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PAPER VI

GIANT HAWTHORNS

Several hawthorn trees, Crateagus spp., standing in the Cranberry Glades of Pocahontas county, a short distance from the State Road Route 24, are of exceptional size and bear many indications of great age.

Some comparisons have been made of these trees with others of the same species in West Virginia and other states. The comparisons indicate that the hawthorns of the Cranberry Glades are unusually large, especially one of the trees which is larger than others of the group.

Attention was not called to the unusual size of the tree until very recently. The big hawthorns were probably first described by Dr. P. D. Strausbaugh, Professor of Botany, West Virginia University, who has visited the region a number of times. His attention was first called to the trees by a companion and subsequently he made some notes concerning the trees.

Dr. Strausbaugh described the trees and setting as follows:

"On a relatively flat-topped grass and fern covered hill at one side of the Cranberry Glades, are some unusually large hawthorn trees, Crateagus spp. The forest of this area was cut away many years ago so that the land could be used for pasturage. Undoubtedly the hawthorns became established during this period.

"As yet no borings have been made to determine the age of these trees, but their size indicates a venerable experience for many of them.

"One tree in particular, at height of three feet from the ground, has a trunk diameter of 20 inches, and exceeds 40 feet in height. All of these trees, heavily plastered, draped and bearded with lichens, are strangely gray and old looking."

The hawthorn is normally a small tree or large shrub seldom reaching more than 12 or 15 feet in height, and six or seven inches in diameter. These hawthorns seem to be in good condition, in spite of their apparent age, and barring the accidents of fire and lightning may continue to be landmarks in the community for many years.

NOTE-- In my own writings, and at least in the oral discussions of others the name,"Strausbaugh Hawthorn," has been applied to the largest tree of the group, honoring Dr. Strausbaugh who was first to bring the big tree to the attention of the public.

Dr. Strausbaugh mildy protested the application of this name to the trees in a conversation with me, probably out of feelings that were deeper than mere modesty. However the name has become rather generally established.

Publication of the information in this paper has been made in West Virginia newspapers and magazines and at least one national magazine.

West Virginia Writers' Project

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Glossary- from Columbia -Encyclopedia.

(Note)

The first two sheets hereto attached , is a brief Glossary of the peculiar words used in describing the wild flowers; and it should be written before or after this Section. It will greatly aid a reader for a ready reference.

Roscoe W. Brown.

The following is a Glossary, and explanation of the obsolete, and peculiar words used in describing the wild flowers ; these words are all used in connection of all wild flowers.

ANTHER- Tip of the stamen, containing the pollen.

Aromatic - Fragrant spices or perfumes .

APEX - The tip point, summit, top.

AXILLARY - The distal angle or point of divergance between a branch and leaf and the axis from which it springs.

BASAL -- One of the leaves produced at the base of the stem.

BRACTS. - A small leaf or set of leaves.

CALYX-- -----Outer covering of a flower.

CALICES- - Pl- of Calyx.

COROLLA- - The inner part of a flower composed of petals.

Crescent - Increasing, The increasing Moon , Circular.

CLEFT- --- Divided slightly more than half way to the mid rib with narrow sinuses;- applied to leaves; divided ,parted.

COMPOSITE. ---Made up of parts ; Compounded; Belong to or having the characters of of the group Compositae, as a Composite plant.

DODDER--- ---- Any plant of the genius CUSCUTA the species of which are leafless parasites with yellow or whitish threadlike stems.

ECRU----- --- Having the nature , appearance , or pale brown color of raw or unbleached stuff , as of Silk ,linen or thelike, characteristic brownish color.

INVOLUCRE.-----In certain liverworts, a tissue that grows around the embryo

KEEL ------ Any ridge -like process . Something resembling a ships Keel.

LOBES.------- Any rounded division or projection of an organ , especially of a leaf.

PALMATE- Resembling the hand with the fingers spread, ; Having Lobes radiating from a common point; The word was origionally applied to leaves with five Lobes.

PETIOLE-- ----A leaf stalk; the slender stem that supports the blade of a foliage leaf.

PETALS ----- One of the leaves of a corolla

PISTIL ----- An organ in a flower, inclosing the seed; The ovule-organ bearing the seed plant.

PINNATE- Having the leaflets or primary divisions arranged on each side of a common petiole or rachis ;- applied to ~~a~~ compound leaves as those of Hickory or an Ash.

PLAITED--------Folded; Braided; Artful; A doubling back;

RACEME-------- A cluster of flowers arranged along a stem.

SALVER-------- A plate or waiter to present something on.

SESSILE------- Low; Dwarf; Attached directly by the base; not raised upon a stalk or peduncle as a sessile leaf; One resting directly on the main stem or branch without a petiole.

SEPALS------ A leaf or division of the calyx.

SCAPE-------- A peduncle raising from the ground and bearing the fructification in its apex.

STAMENS ------ Male organ of a flower.

STIPULES--------One of the pair of appendages born[e] at the base of the leaf in many plants.

UMBEL--------- A collection of small flowers in a head .

NATURAL SETTING , Pocahontas County.

Roscoe W. Brown
Dec-13th 1941

Chapter Three.

Part 2 Sec A.) (Wild flowers of Pocahontas County)

Madder Family (Rubiaceae)

Patridge Vine, Twin-berry ; Mitchella Vine :; Squaw Berry.

(Mitchella repens)

Flowers -- Waxy, white (pink in bud)fragrant, growing in pairs at ends of branches . Calyx usually 4 lobed; corolla funnel form, about ½ in. long, the 4 spreading lobes bearded within ; 4 stamens inserted on corolla throat 1 style with 4 stigmas; the ovaries of the twinflowers united. The Style is logg when the stamens are short, or vice versa .

Stem -- Slender, trailing, rooted at the joints 6 to 12 in. long, with numerous erect branches.

Leaves-- Opposite, entire, short petioled, oval or rounded, evergreen, dark, sometimes white veined.

Fruit :- A small red, edible, double berry-like drupe.

Preferred Habitat- In the Woods, in dry places, on the north hillsides.

Flowering Season . April - June ; and sometimes in the autumn.

A carpet of these dark, shining, little evergreen leaves, spread at the foot of forest trees, whether sprinkling over in June with pairs waxy cream-white, pink-tipped, velvety, lilac- scented flowers that suggest attenuated arbutus blossoms, or with coral-red berries in autumn and winter is surely one of the loveliest sights in the woods.

No woodland creeper rewards our care with greater luxuriance of growth. Growing near our homes, the Partridge vine offers an excellent opportunity for study. This specie of the Madder family is one of the most beautiful of the Pocahontas wild flowers, and is common in all parts of the County.

LOBELIA FAMILY. (Lobeliaceae)

Cardinal flower; Red Lobelia.

(Lobelia cardinalis)

Flowers-: Rich vermilion, veryrarely rose or white, 1 to 1½ in. long, numerous growing in terminals, erect, green-bracted, more or less 1 sided racemes.

Calyx- 5 cleft; corolla tubular, split down one side, 2- lipped; the lower lip with 3 spreading lobes, the upper lip with 3 spreading lobes 2 -lobed, erect; 5 stamens united into a tube around the style; 2 anthers with hairy tufts.

Stem - 2 to 4½ ft. high, rarely branched.

Leaves- Oblong to lance-shaped, slightly toothed, mostly sessile.

Preferred Habitat:- Wet or low ground, beside streams, ditches, and meadow runnel

Flowering Season July - September..

There is said to be about 200 different species of the Lobelia plant but only two of the species are common in Pocahontas County, the Cardinal and the Blue Lobelia,; The commonest species popularily known as Indian - Tobacco, has tiny whight to light blue flowers. The Lobelia plant has a tobacco-like odor and contains a volatile oil used in medicine.

The Indians used it in smoking mixtures.

Great Lobelia. Blue Cardinal Flower.

(Lobelia syphiliticia)

Flowers- ; Bright Blue, touched with white , fading to pale blue, abo ut 1 in. long, borne on tall, erect , leafy spike. Calyx 5 parted, the lobes sharply cut, hairy, Corolla tubular, open to base on one side , 2 lipped, irigularily 5 lobed, the petals pronounced at maturity only. Stamens 5, united by their hairy anthers into a tube around the style; ~~simple, leafy, slightly hairy~~ larger anthers smooth.

Stem- 1 to 3 ft. high, stout, leafy, slightly hairy.

Leaves- Alternate, oblong, tapering, pointed, irregularly toothed 2 to 6 in long ½ to 2 in. wide.

Preferred Habitat- Moist or wet soil ; some times along the streams

Flowering Season- July and October.

This species of the Lobelia plant is so common in the South West ern Part of Pocahontas County , and especially on Bruffeys, and Hills Creek , that the entire neighborhood is called " LOBELIA" And the Post Office of that region of the County is called"Lobelia" after this wild flower which is found so abundantly in that neighborhood.

COMPOSITE FAMILY. (Compositae)

Iron weed; Flat Top.

(Vernonia noveboracensis)

Flower-head :- Composite of tubular florets only, intense reddish-purple thistle-like heads, borne on short, branched peduncles and forming broad, flat-clusters; bracts of involucre , brownish purple, tipped with awl shaped bristles

Stem: 3 to 9 ft high rough or hairy branched.

Leaves:- Alternate, narrowly oblong or lance-olate , saw-edged, 3 to 10 in. long , and rough.

Preferred -Habitat.-Moist Soil, damp meadow fields.

Flowering Season - July - September.

The Iron-weed is one of the beautiful wild flowers , that brighten the roadsides and low meadows throught the summer with bright clusters of bloom When it is on the wane, the asters, for which it is sometimes mistaken, begin to appear , but an instants comparison shows the difference between the two flowers. After noting the yellow disk in the center of the aster, it is not likely the iron-weed, s thistle like head ofray floretsonly will ever again be confused with it. Another rank growing neighbor with which it has been comfounded by the novice is the Joe-Pye Weed, a far paler, old-rose colored flower, as one does not meet them both afield may see on comparing the colored plates in the botaiical books.

This wild flower is found mostly in the low altitudes of Pocahontas County; in the wet pasture lands .

Joe-Pye Weed; Trumpets Weed; Purple Thoroughwort; Gravel or Kidney-root; Tall or Purple Boneset.

(Eupatorium purpureum)

Flower- heads-- Pale or dull magenta or lavender pink, slightly fragrant, of tubular florets only, very numerous, in large, terminals , loose, compound clusters, generally elongated. Several series of pink overlapping bracts form the oblong involucre from which the tubular florets and its protruding fring of style- branches arise.

Stem-: 3 to 10 ft. high green or purplish, leafy usually branching toward top.

Leaves-: In whorls of 3 to 6 usually 4, oval to lance-shaped , saw edged, peticled, thin, rough.

Preferred Habitat:- Moist soil, meadows, woods, and low ground.

Towering above the surrounding vegitation of low lying meadows this vigorous composite spreads clusters of soft, fringy bloom that, however deep or pale the tint, are ever conspicious advertisements, even when the golden-rods, sunflowers, and asters enter into close competition for insect trade. This worthless , and beautiful flower that is so common in all parts of Pocahontas County especially in low meadows ; received its name from an Indian medicine-man , of the New England Colonies , by the name of Joe-Pye , who earned fame and fortune by curing typhus fever and other dreaded diseases with decoctions made from this plant.

Boneset;

Boneset; Common Thoroughwort; Agueweed; Indian Sage.

(Eupatorium perfoliatum)

Flower-heads. - Composite , the numerous small, dull, white heads of tubular florets only , crowded in spreading , flat-topped terminal cymes .

Stem:- Stout , tall, branching above, hairy, leafy.

Leaves-: Opposite, often united at their bases . or clasping, lance -shaped, saw-edged, wrinkled.

Preferred Habitat.- Wet ground , low meadows road sides .

Flowering Season. July -- September.

This is a very peculiar wild flower and plant ; sometimes the stem appears to run through the cemter of one large leaf that is kinky in the middle and taper-pointed at both ends , rather than between two leaves. Old-fashioned illness known as "break bone fever" doubtless paralleled to day by the grip- once had its terrors for a patient increased ahundred fold by the certainty he felt of taking nauseous doses of bone set tea, administered by zelous old women outside the " regular practice . Children had to have their noses held before they would - or indeed , could- swallow the decoction

This weed was used by the Indians as medicine , and was by them introduced to the white men . It was used by the Chippewa Indians as a charm It has the properties of Quinine.

Golden Rod.

(Solidago)

The Golden Rod Wild flower is by far the most popular of all the Composite Family of wild flowers in Pocahontas County.

This is a handsome wayside plant of the genus (Solidago) Which in late summer or early autumn bears panicles of yellow flowers . One species has white blossoms. Most of the 125 species are native of North America. With the Aster, which bloom at the same time , the Golden Rod makes the last showy wild flower display in many parts of the country, and is so familiar every - where that some of the States - Alabama, Kentucky, Nebraska, and North Carolina- have chosen it for the State Flower ; In Europe the Golden Rod is cultivated in gardens . Some species were formerly used for making yellow dye , and were called " Dyers Weeds "

Along shady roadsides and in moist woods and thickets, from August to October The Blue -stemed, Wreath, or Woodland Golden -rod (S. caesia) sways an unbranched stem with a bluish bloom on it.

When these flowers transforms whole acres into " fields of the cloth of gold " the slender wands swaying by every roadside, and Purple Asters add the final touche of beauty and splendor to the Autumn landscape. This wild flower of Pocahontas County is found in both low and high altitudes . especially in meadows , and pastur e lands.

Golden Aster

(Chrysopsis mariana)

Flower-heads - Composite, yellow, 1 in wide or less, a few corymbed flowers on glandular stalks; each composed of perfect tubular disk florets surrounded by pistilate ray florets; the involucre campanulate, its narrow bracts overlapping in several series.

Stem-: Stout , silky, hairy when young, nearly smoothe later, 1 to 2½ ft. tall

Leaves ;- Alternate, oblong to spatulate, entire.

Preferred Habitat - Dry soil, or sandy, soil.

Flowering Season- August- September.

Whoever comes upon clumps of these handsome flowers by the dusty roadside cannot but be impressed with the appropriatness of their generic name (Chryseo - Gold)

This is a beautiful wild flower of Pocahontas County , but is not as common as other species of the Composite Golden Rod family.

Daisy Fleabane; Sweet Scabious.

(Erigeron annuus)

Flower-heads - Numerous, daisy-like, about ½ in across; from 40 to 70 long, fine, white rays (or purple or pink tinged) arranged around yellow disk flosets in a rough, hemispheric cup whose bracts overlap.

Stem- Erect, 1 to 4 ft high, branching above, with spreading, rough hairs.

Leaves:- Thin, lower ones ovate, coarsely toothed, petioled ; upper ones sessile, becoming smaller, lance shaped.

Preferred Habitat- : Fields waste land, and roadsides.

Flowering Season:- May to November.

At a glance one knows this flower to be a kin to Robin,s plantain, the Asters and Dasies, . That this wild flower known as Daisy Fleabane, drive away fleas, is believed only by those who have tried it out; when dried and sprinkled in dog kennels, when reduced to a powder , have been known to drive the dogs away. Hence the name fleabane.

Black eyed Susan; Yellow or Ox-eye Daisy; Nigger-heads;

Golden Jerusalem Purple Cone -Flower.

(Rudbeckia hirta.)

Flower heads-- From 10 to 20 orange- yellow neutral rays around a conical, dark purplish-brown disk of florets containing bothh stamens and pistil.

Stem: - 1 to 3 ft. tall, hairy, rough, usually unbranched, often tufted,.

Leaves:- Oblong to lance-shaped, thick, sparingly notched, rough.

Preferred Habitat:- Open sunny places; dry fields.

Flowering Season- : May -- September.

So very many weeds have come to our Eastern shores from Europe, and marched and marched farther amd farther west each year, it is but fair that black-eyed Susan, a native of Western Clover fields, should travel Eastward to the Atlantic in bundles of Hay whenever she gets a chance , to repay Eastern - farmers in their own coin. This black eyed Susan is a native of our Western United States; but have become prime favorites of later years in European gardens so offering them still another chance to overrun the Old World, to which so much American hay is shipped;

Thrifty farmers may decry the importation into their mowing lots, but there is a glory to the cone -flower besides the glitter of gold fades into paltry nothingness.

Any one who has had a jar of these yellow daisies standing on a polished table indoors, and tried to keep its surface free from a ring of golden dustaround the flowers, knows how abundant their pollen is. The Black eyed Susan , like the English Sparrow has come to Stay in Pocahontas County.

Yarrow; Old Man,s Pepper; Nosebleed.

(Achillea Millefolium)

Flower heads:- Grayish -white, rarely pinkish, in a hard, close, flat-topped compound cluster. Ray florets 4 to 6 , pistillate, fertile; disk florets yellow, afterwards brown, perfect, fertile.

Stem:- Erect, from horizontal root-stalk , 1 to 2 ft. high, leafy, sometimes hairy. Leaves:- Very finely dissected.

Preferred Habitat:- Waste land, dry fields, banks , roadsides , especially in meadows in dry rocky land.

Flowering Season :-- June -- November.

Every where in Pocahontas County this commonest of common weeds confronts us;the compact, dusty-looking clusters appearing not by waysides only, around the world, but in the mythology, folk-lore, medicine, and literature of many peoples. As a love charm; as an herbtea brewed by crones to cure divers ailments, from loss of hair to the ague; as an inducement to nosebleeding for the relief of conjective headache;as an ingredient of an especially intoxicating beer made by Swedes, it is mentioned in old books. Nowadays we are satisfied merely to admier the feathery masses of lace-like foliage formed byyoung plants, tow whiff the wholesome, nutty, autumnal odor of its flowers, or to wonder at the marvelous scheme it employs to overrun the earth. This yarrow plant at one time was considered a pest to the farmers of Pocahontas County , and it was dug up in the meadows; and whilethe flower is very beautiful , it is one of the most worthless of all the Composite wild flowers of Pocahontas County. It was naturalized from Europe.

Dogs or Foetid Camomile: Mayweed; Pigs-sty Daisy ; Dillweed; Dog-fennel.

(Anthemis Cotula (Maruta Cotula)

Flower-heads :- Like small dasies, about 1 in. broad; 10 to 18 white notched neutral ray florets around a convex Or conical yellow disk , whose florets are fertile containing both stamens and pistil, tubular, 1 to 2 ft. high, leafy with unpleasant odor and acrid taste.

Leaves:- Very finely dissected into slender segments.

Preferred Habitat: Roadsides, dry waste land, sandy fields.

Flowering Season-: June -- November.

Dog, used as a prefix by several of the plants folk - names, implies contempt for its worthliness. It is an other species, the Garden-Camomile (A nobilis), which furnishes the apothecary with those flowers whihh, when steeped into a bitter, aromatic tea, have been supposed for generations to make a superior tonic and blood purifier.

This Dog-fennel plant mostly an wet sour land, it is a beautiful flows but is a worthless plant.

Common Daisy; White weed; Oxeye- Daisy; Marguerita; Love-me; Love-me- Not.

(Chrysanthemum Laucanthemum)

Flower -heads- Disk- florets yellow, tubular, 4 or 5 toothed, containing stamens and pistil; surrounded by white ray florets, which are pistillate, fertile

Stem:- Mostly oblong in outline, coursely toothed and divided.

Preferred Habitat:- Meadows, Pastures, Roadsides, waste land, grows every where in the open, will not survive in the woods or in the shade of timber.

Flowering Season :- May - November.

Myriads and myriads of dasies, whiten many of the fields of Pocahontas County as if a blizzard had covered them with a snowy mantle in June and fills the farmers with dismay; while the flowers are filled with rapture as they behold their beauty.

At one time the farmers of Pocahontas County, thought that Oxeye Dasies was an aweful pest and would ruin their land, and fields of meadows, but later it was conceded that when a field of Ox-eye Daisies were plowed under it was a good soil builder ;

The Ox-eye Daisy is said to be an naturalized immigrant from Europe.

It is among the most conspicuous of flowers.

Tansy; Bitter-buttons.

(Tanacetum vulgare)

Flower-heads- Small, round, of tubular florets only, packed within a depressed involucre, and born in flattopped corymbs.

Stem-: 1½ to 3 ft. tall, leafy.

Leaves: - Deeply and pinnately cleft in narrow, toothed divisions; strong scented.

Preferred Habitat:- Roadsides ; commonly escaped from gardens.

Flowering - Season:- July - September

Tansy tea, in short cured every ill that the that heir flesh is heir to, according to simple faith of many of the early settlers - and faith still surviving in many old women even to this day . In the early settlement it was believed that to soak Tansy leaves in buttermilk for nine days , and then applied, it would make the complexion very fair.

So great credence having been given to its medicinal powers in Europe it is not strange the colonists felt they could not live in the New World without Tansy. Strong-scented pungent tufts topped with bright yellow buttons- runaways from old gardens- are conspicuous feature along many a roadside leading to colonial homesteads. This Tansy plant is Naturalized from Europe.

It is a pretty well established fact that Daniel Boone was a visitor at times at Dunmore. Major Warwick once decided to move to Kentucky. Perhaps Boone helped persuade him. There is a story that Colonel Boone and Major Warwick had a fist fight at Clover Lick. It may have been because of the turning back at Sewell Mountain and it may have been over lands in Tygarts Valley in which both were interested. There is a tradition that Mrs. Warwick was the cause of them turning back at Sewell Mountain and that Boone threw up "petticoat government" to Jacob Warwick and that the fist fight followed.

In pioneer days Dunmore was a busy place, with the fort, store, mills, blacksmith, gunsmith, powder maker and other necessary things required to develop and maintain a great estate in a new country.

The Moores were descendents of Moses Moore, noted pioneer and Indian fighter. There were three Moore pioneers in this county not related to each other.

The McLaughlins settled on Thomas Creek. Squire Hugh McLaughlin sat on the county court for eighteen years. He was influential in putting Pocahontas dry by refusing to license saloons and "ordinaries". This was over ninety years ago. It was one of the first counties to go on the dry list.

There were the McCutcheons. It was said of this family that they were always present and on time at public worship though the churches were at Greenbank and Huntersville, eight and twelve miles away.

and were

Martin

CRANBERRY GLADES
OF POCAHONTAS COUNTY.

The Cranberry Glades are located in Pocahontas county about twenty miles from the Virginia border in a depression among the Yew Mountains. The glades are a former bog or swampy region which has been caused by the raising up of the mountains about them and from the water seepage which seems to have been fairly great. The glades, at an elevation of 3,400 feet, lie between Black Mountain on the East, Cranberry Mountain on the South and Kennison Mountain on the Southwest. Recently CCC boys built a road into the heart of the Glades off State Route 39 about five miles west of Mill Point on U. S. Route 219.

Cranberry Glades is the largest and most widely known glade area in West Virginia. There is another glade region in Preston county but it is not nearly as large as this one in Pocahontas county.

The vegetation, here, is characteristic of a region of the latitude of Southern Canada. This is probably due to the fact that in the travel of the ice sheet southward seeds from these northern plants were carried southward. Several other factors may have contributed to the placing of different plants in this region, such as streams, the wind, migratory birds, and man. These plants established themselves in the Glades because the soil here was characteristic of their natural habitat.

This region is drained by Cranberry and Cherry Rivers. Cranberry River has its head waters in Cranberry and Black Mountains with small streams emptying into it all along its course. Cherry River has its head waters in the Yew Mountains on the north. All these streams drain this region known as the Glades.

The plants characteristic of the Glades are: Cranberries, hawthorns, moss-lichens, orchids, Southern Chain Fern, Sundew, Bog Rosemary and other swamp vegetation. In these glades are found two types of Cranberries both of which are edible in variety, and of the same apecies as those in the bogs of Massachusetts which are used commercially.

The Cranberry gives name to the bogs or Glades. There are several trailing species of the family (Vacciniaceae) genus (oxycoccus) but only two are found in the glades of Pocahontas county, they are smaller (O. oxycoccus) and larger (O. macrocarpus). Both are trailing vines bearing small evergreen leaves which are dark and shining above, glaucous below, revolute at the margin, ovate, lanceolate or elliptical in shape and not more than a half inch long. The inconspicuous flowers which appear in May or June, are small and stalked, having a four-lobed, rose-tinted corolla, purplish filaments and anther-cells forming two long tubes. The globular or pyriform fruits or berries

borne on slender curved stalks, which suggested the name crane-berry, the neck of a crane, are about the size of currants, crimson in color, often spotted and have an acid or astringent taste.

Although the larger variety is the one that is cultivated and used commercially the smaller is considered to produce finer flavored fruits.

The cranberries prefer swampy or marshy soil, rich in peat and that is one reason we find cranberries in what is known as Cranberry Glades in Pocahontas county. Sphagnum, a genus of the mosses, furnishes the peat. The land must be well drained and we find that many small streams rise in these glades and flow west or south to Cranberry or Cherry Rivers.

Sphagnum, a genus of the mosses found in this region is of the family Sphagraceae and grows in moist places or bogs forming a soft, thick carpet, saturated with water. These are perennials of feathery aspect, growing at the top of the stem from year to year. Some of the numerous branches grow upward and form tufts at the apices of the stems, while others droop downward and envelope the lower portion of the stem. Each year one of the side branches grows so strongly as to rival the main head, and thus gives a forked appearance to the plant. The lower end of the stem is continuously dying away, eventually forming peat, and thus frees the lower ends of the branches, which

thereupon start into independent plants. Special branches, differentiated by color and structure, produce the sexual organs, the two organs being on the same plant or separated. The spore-capsules are on short branches and are globular, with a lid. The small, translucent leaves, like the stem have strata of transparent cells, connected by holes, which are capable of absorbing and retaining much water. This ability to retain water has made the sphagnum moss very valuable to florists, who use it for packing bulbs and flowers, and forms a large part of the compost employed for growing pitcher-plants and orchids.

During the entire season Ordhids have been found about the dryer areas of the bogs and its presence is also made possible by the growth of sphagnum-moss. These monocotyledonous plants of the order Orchidaceae of which there are more than 12,000 known species and many thousand varieties are by far the most interesting order of plants of the entire vegetabel kingdom because of the extra-ordinary mode of growth and existence, their great age and endurance, their curious habits and varied forms of their flowers, which are distinct from all other plants, fine in texture and of glowing and exquisite colors. They are remarkable also because of their ready adaptability and free permission of cross-breeding or cross-fertilization. This is true of them in their natural habitat as well as under practical cultivation. This fact accounts for the almost endless varieties of flowers and colors.

(More will follow)

These plants have queer small seeds sometimes millions in a capsule; reproduction was unknown to science for hundreds of years, now these plants are known to sprout only in the presence of certain fungi.

The flower is made up of several parts which include: sepals, petals, labellum or pouch, and column or crest, resting upon the modified hollow ovary, and bearing the one or two stamens and the two or three stigmas. The pollen-grains are aggregated into peculiar pollen masses. The structure of the flower is a modification of the typical thre-part pattern of the lilies. Four or five out of the six original stamens of the flower are suppressed also one of the stigmas is suppressed. The labellum, which is a modified petal, is as a rule the most conspicuous part and is the most wonderfully constructed as well as the most important organ of the flower. It is through the labellum that insects, when in search of sweet nectar stored inside the spur or walls of the flower are attracted and guided to it and thus accomplish the benefits of cross-fertilization. It is in this way that so many new varieties, "natural hybrids" are produced by the unconscious work of insects.

Orchids, which are distributed over a large area of both the Eastern and Western hemispheres are divided into two general groups---the East Indian and the South American. These are then classified according to

their growth and subsistence, as saprophytic, epiphytal and terrestrial. The saprophytic include varieties which grow in wet and marshy places and are of little value except for botanical purposes. The epiphytal group which is by far the most valuable and most important grows and thrives best upon trunks or limbs of trees in mid-air simply clinging to a single stem or small limb. It is this group, too, which contains the most beautiful and most valuable species and varieties and the most varied colors.

The terrestrial orchids, as their name indicates are such as grow upon the ground and have no need for the pseudo-bulbs or hypertrophied stems, which are peculiarly characteristic of the epiphytal group. It is the saprophytes and terrestrial groups that we find in the United States. Those found in Cranberry Glades probably belong to the saprophytes class as this region is marshy.

The Grass Pink (Calopogon pulchellus) and the Snakemouth Orchid (Pogonia ophioglossoides) are fairly abundant, here, and when in bloom, the lovely rich colors. of their flowers contrast them with the somber hues of the background of mosses and lichens. A few of the plants of the Yellow-fringed-Orchid are found here but the burnt-orange hue of the ragged flowers, borne on splendid spikes soon attracts the attention of those who have the good fortune to visit this region during the blooming season. Another orchid of this glade, exceedingly rare in this

state is the little Twayblade (Listera Smallii). This two-leafed dwarf, so small and delicate and hidden away beneath other plants, is likely to remain invisible to all eyes except those trained and alert for the perception of unusual plant forms. Its flowers are few, tiny and a dark purple in color.

Moss-lichen is a combination of moss and lichen. The moss (musci) is a flowerless plant often growing on rocks and in moist places. They help to retain the water supply. Under favorable conditions the life of a moss plant seems to be endless. The male reproductive organs, antheridia, are club-shaped and contain cells which afterward defelop into antherozoids, these when liberated move about until they come in contact with the female reproductive organ, archegonium. The fertilized archegonium is then carried upward on a slender filament or seta, and now forms the fruit or capsule, usually closed by a lid. When ripe the capsult opens and liberates the spores. The capsules of many species being small sacs at the end of hair-like stalks, which rise in great numbers from a moss cushion. These capsules contain spores from each of which when sown there grows in a few days a tiny plant, the protonema a class of cryptogamous plants forming with the liverworts the group Muscinae or Bryophyta. New ones are continually springing from old shoots, so that in bogs the tops remain growing while the under-layers die and the deeper ones slowly change into peat.

The lichens, a fungus, attaches itself to the moss in Cranberry Glades forming what is commonly called moss-lichen but is rightly lichens as they are double plants, each made up of an intimate combination of alga and a fungus. The alga furnishes the food and the fungus protects the alga against the sun's rays and absorbs water. Lichens in many places form encrusting growths on rocks and stones, on the stems and branches of trees, on walls and fences and on the earth. They are common in every zone and in all altitudes. They propagate by spores developed in various ways from the component fungus, but with these the partner alga must be speedily associated. Another frequent mode of multiplication is by means of bloodbuds, which consist of a few algal-cells plus a separated portion of the fungus. The fruits of these are known as apothecia. The lichens of which there are 4,000 known species may be grey, yellow, brown, greenish, blue, or black and have neither roots or stems but have layers of variously shaped expansions called thalli. These plants not only make their chosen places of abode more beautiful, but they help pave the way for other forms of life. Growing as they do upon exposed rocks and in barren soil they secrete an acid which dissolves the rock and softens the soil, and in time when they decay and mix with the soil, they enrich it so that more highly-developed plants can grow there.

(MORE TO FOLLOW)

Inventory of Materials

Pocahontas

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Author: Florence Schumm

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Sunday Aug. 15, 1937

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Florence Schum

CRANBERRY GLADES.

"Hidden away in the mountains near the western border of Pocahontas county, readily accessible from Richwood, W.Va., lies a bit of strangely fascinating country, the Cranberry Glades. Ever since the discovery of this interesting region, its natural features have attracted the attention of hunters, fishers, botanista, geologists, ornithologists and naturalists of every sort. The Glades proper and the adjoining mountain slopes comprise an area of some 300 acres. The entire section is remote, all in a semi-wild state, away from motor highways and all business and social centers.

"Reaching this isolated wonderland, one finds mute but unmistakable evidence of the relatively recent history of this region, a once magnificent spruce-birch forest destroyed by lumbermen some 30 years ago. The area is now (according to Dr. P.D.Strausbaugh, of the biological department of West Virginia university, one of the best authorities on the Cranberry Glades, who has visited and studied its flora and fauna) occupied by fire cherry, rhododendron and brambles with a liberal admixture of spruce and birch seedlings, all cooperating to lay the foundation of another forest. Decaying stumps and moss covered trunks lying where they fell, still reveal something of the luxuriant forest that stood there in previous generations.

"Orchids grow wild in the Cranberry Glades. Stories are told that from 27 to 77 different species are found. Scientists who have studied plant life there, however, say there are but three different species.

"Dr. Strausbaugh in his article relates: 'Orchids were abundant but only three species were repre sented. The beautiful blossoms of the snake-mouth orchid (Pogonia ophioglossoides) and those of the grass pink (Calopogan pulchellus) gave a lively touch to the somber color scheme, standing out like roseate gems against a dull background.

" The Glades are filled with bird life. Visitors, both scientists and laymen, have expressed the belief that every tree and bush has its quota. The woodland is made bewitching by the warblers. Dr. Strausbaugh states: 'The

Florence Schum

rry Glades.

of the Veeryand the hermit thrushwere heard frequently and there certain-
n be no music on earth or in heaven more pleasing or expressive than that
the hermit thrush...

"Scientists explain that the formation was probably at one time a lake with
eeps and shallows,gradually filling up as vegetation decayed. This explains
hy some of the glades are more advanced than are others and explains why there
s an elevation in the midst of the glades called an 'island' on which there
s still virgin timber, void of shrubs and brambles making what appears to be
ell kept picnicking grounds.

"Recently the federal government has acquired this entire region as a part
f the Monongahela National forest. The Cranberry Glades, named from the two
species of cranberries that are common in this area,is being improved as a
ild-life sanctuary. Thus protected against commercial invasion this area is
insured an indefinite period of reforestation and protection of its natural
charms and interest for succeeding generations.

"The Glades can now be reached readily,in good weather,through Richwood,
by use of forest trails,over which automobiles can pass by arrangements with
the United States forest service,with very little inconvenience. The route
carries the tourist or othervisitor a short distance up the North Fork of the
Cherry river,thence over the divide into the Cranberry river valley. Beauti-
ful,rugged natural scenic wonders unfold themselves along an almost perfect
water grade route,winding along the Cranberry, past beautiful Camp Woodbine,
and past the C.C.C.camp at Cranberry.This route passes 'Dogway' an old lumber-
jack's landmark,and all along the route may be seen the ruins of former lumber
camps, the railroads and log roads which first penetrated this vast area of
which within a radius of approximately one hundred miles. Richwood is the larg
est populated center.

"Under construction now,is the 'Missing Link' of route 39 which,when com-
pleted, will give an almost perfect water grade crossingof this area to a junc-
tion with the Seneca trail at Mill Point,into the Greenbrier river valley. When

pleted the route will give tourists crossing southern West Virginia into the great valley of Virginia an impressive and interesting travel route through the Monongahela, the George Washington and the Shenandoah national forests, to the famed Sky Line drive and the other shrines,caverns and points of interest in the Old Dominion."

From
"The Charleston Gazette"
Sunday,August 15,1937 -p. 12.

Spraker

More About Cranberry Glades

This region surpasses all others in that it furnishes a continuous series of surprises.

It is generally known as Big Glade being in extent some three hundred acres, covered with a carpet of mosses, lichens, low shrubs presenting a multi-colored picture something like a patchwork quilt of gray, green, rose and brown. The glade itself is of an elevation of about 3,400 feet while the mountains all about it rise to about 4,000 feet.

Many species of plants are found here, Buckbean (Menyanthes trifoliata), bog rosemary (Andromeda glaucophylla), sundew (Dorsera rotundifolia), Orchids abound (Three species represented), large fruited juneberry(Amelanchier Canadensis), wild raisin (Viburnum cassinoides) and mpuntain holly (Ilex monticola).

On the margin of this large open glade is a well-defined zone of sedges, dulichium and carex. Back of the sedges is a continuous belt of alders beneath which we find aquatic grasses and other herbeceous plants and others such as Skunk Cabbage (Symplocarpus foetidus of gray), American hellebore (Veratrum viride). and blue monkshood (Aconitum uncinatum).

Still back of the alders is the tree zone of spruce and birch with an undergrowth of American yew (Taxus canadensis).

There is a vigorous warfare existing between the mosses and lichens. In one place the mosses are successful and gaining ground while in another the lichens are overgrowing the mosses and steadily advancing their lines. The mosses include those species as sphagnum and polytrichum while the cladonias clearly predominate among the lichens. Lichens are found on nearly all the trees which make up plant life in the area around the glade. The falsely called "reindeer moss" (Cladonia rangiferina) is really a lichen, and forms rather extensive patches in Cranberry Glades. Its nearly white flowers add much to the variegated color-pattern of the glade.

Trailing swamp blackberry is found in abundance and its long prostrate stems bearing a profusion of glossy green leaves makes some very pretty tracings on the dull-colored carpet of lichens.

Following is a description of those plants not described in a previous paper:

The Buckbean (Menyanthes trifoliata) is commonly found in spongy, boggy soils and flowers about the latter part of May and early June. The plant has a procumbent stem rising to a height of from six to twelve inches and covered by the sheaths of the leaves and a creeping jointed root. The leaves are trifoliate (like those of clover), with obtuse, ovate leaflets. The flower-stalk terminates in a thyrse of white flowers, rose-colored

outwardly. The calyx is five-parted, the corolla funnel-shaped, spreading and clothed on the inner surface with a coating of dense fleshy hairs. The fruit consists of a one-called, two valved capsule containing numerous seed. The entire plant, the root especially, has an intensely bitter taste, and an extract of it ranks as a valuable tonic quite equal in its effects to gen tian. It is said to be beneficial in intermittent fevers, gout, liver complaint, dropsy and scurvy.

Bog Rosemary, sundew, and orchids (see previous paper).

The large fruited juneberry (Amelanchier Canadensis) sometines known as Service-berry, prefers dry soils and flowers from March until May. This is a large shrub or tree, usually much less than twenty-five feet in height and rarely twice that height. The oval leaves which alternate on the stem, are tapering at the tip, finely saw-edged, smooth like those of the pear tree but often hairy when young. The flowers on long, slender pedicels, in spreading or drooping racemes with silky, reddish bracts among them, are pure white and over one inch across. They consist of a five-parted, persistent calyx, five long, narrow tapering petals, three or four tiles the length of the calyx, and numerous stamens inserted on the calyx throat; with two to five styles,

hairy at the base, The fruits are round, crimson, sweet, edible, seedy berries which are ripe in June and July.

The Mountain Holly (Ilex monticola)--Nemopanthes Canadensis of Gray--a shrub of the northern swamps about six feet high, and by no means confined to mountainous regions, since it is also abundant in the middle West, has smooth-edged, elliptic, petioled leaves, ash-colored bark, small, solitary, narrow-petalled staminate and pistillate flowers on long, threadlike pedicels from the leaf-axils, in May. In August dull-pale-red berries appear. The leaves are not as glossy as those of the European variety and this holly prefers swampy places.

The sedges found here are genus of Cyperaceae which are sometimes used in converting swamps into dry ground. These are nearly akin to the grasses but easily distinguished by their solid, unjointed, generally triangular stems, undivided leaf-sheaths, and the absence of paleae. Dry and rough in texture they furnish only the poorest contituent of fodder or hay, nor with few exceptions have they any other economic uses. The two genus found here are dulichium and carex.

There are many alders in Cranberry Glade, one black alder or winterberry (Ilex verticillata) belongs

to the Holly family and flowers in June and early July. This plant is a shrub six to twenty-five feet in height with oval, saw-edged, dark green leaves tapering to a point, about one inch wide, smooth above and hairy especially along veins beneath. The small, greenish-white flowers are in clusters, the staminate clusters being two to ten flowered, and the fertile ones one to three flowered. Beautiful bright-red berries, about the size of a pea, apparently whorled around the twigs cover the branches during the late fall and early winter months. The preferred habitat of the black alder is swamps, ditches, fence-rows or low thickets.

The White alder (Clethra alnifolia) like the black alder prefers swampy places but itoflowers in late July and early August. This much-branched shrub, grows from three to ten feet in height. The leaves which alternate on the stem, are oblong or ovate, finely saw-edged above the middle at least, green on both sides and tapering at the base into short petioles. Thervery fragrant, white flowers which are about one-third of an inch across are borne in long, narrow, upright, clustered spikes, with awl-shaped bracts. These flowers have a calyx of five sepals; and contain five long petals; ten protruding stamens with one style the longest.

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CLYDE R. MONTGOMERY
1318 University Ave.
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PAPER VI

GIANT HAWTHORNS

Several hawthorn trees, Crateagus spp., standing in the Cranberry Glades of Pocahontas county, a short distance from the State Road Route 24, are of exceptional size and bear many indications of great age.

Some comparisons have been made of these trees with others of the same species in West Virginia and other states. The comparisons indicate that the hawthorns of the Cranberry Glades are unusually large, especially one of the trees which is larger than others of the group.

Attention was not called to the unusual size of the tree until very recently. The big hawthorns were probably first described by Dr. P. D. Strausbaugh, Professor of Botany, West Virginia University, who has visited the region a number of times. His attention was first called to the trees by a companion and subsequently he made some notes concerning the trees.

Dr. Strausbaugh described the trees and setting as follows:

"On a relatively flat-topped grass and fern covered hill at one side of the Cranberry Glades, are some unusually large hawthorn trees, Crateagus spp. The forest of this area was cut away many years ago so that the land could be used for pasturage. Undoubtedly the hawthorns became established during this period.

"As yet no borings have been made to determine the age of these trees, but their size indicates a venerable experience for many of them.

"One tree in particular, at height of three feet from the ground, has a trunk diameter of 20 inches, and exceeds 40 feet in height. All of these trees, heavily plastered, draped and bearded with lichens, are strangely gray and old looking."

The hawthorn is normally a small tree or large shrub seldom reaching more than 12 or 15 feet in height, and six or seven inches in diameter. These hawthorns seem to be in good condition, in spite of their apparent age, and barring the accidents of fire and lightning may continue to be landmarks in the community for many years.

NOTE-- In my own writings, and at least in the oral discussions of others the name,"Strausbaugh Hawthorn," has been applied to the largest tree of the group, honoring Dr. Strausbaugh who was first to bring the big tree to the attention of the public.

Dr. Strausbaugh mildy protested the application of this name to the trees in a conversation with me, probably out of feelings that were deeper than mere modesty. However the name has become rather generally established.

Publication of the information in this paper has been made in West Virginia newspapers and magazines and at least one national magazine.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Natural Setting Pocahontas County Chapter (3)- Part 2 Sec A) Date Dec 13th 1941.

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Source By contact of flowers, description ,&& from history of West Va wild flowers Date Filed

Glossary- from Columbia -Encyclopedia.

(Note)

The first two sheets hereto attached , is a brief Glossary of the peculiar words used in describing the wild flowers; and it should be written before or after this Section. It will greatly aid a reader for a ready reference.

Roscoe W. Brown.

The following is a Glossary, and explanation of the obsolete, and peculiar words used in describing the wild flowers ; these words are all used in connection of all wild flowers.

ANTHER- Tip of the stamen, containing the pollen.

Aromatic - Fragrant spices or perfumes .

APEX - The tip point, summit, top.

AXILLARY - The distal angle or point of divergance between a branch and leaf and the axis from which it springs.

BASAL -- One of the leaves produced at the base of the stem.

BRACTS. - A small leaf or set of leaves.

CALYX-- -----Outer covering of a flower.

CALICES- - Pl- of Calyx.

COROLLA- - The inner part of a flower composed of petals.

Crescent - Increasing, The increasing Moon , Circular.

CLEFT- --- Divided slightly more than half way to the mid rib with narrow sinuses;- applied to leaves; divided ,parted.

COMPOSITE. ---Made up of parts ; Compounded; Belong to or having the characters of of the group Compositae, as a Composite plant.

DODDER--- ---- Any plant of the genius CUSCUTA the species of which are leafless parasites with yellow or whitish threadlike stems.

ECRU----- --- Having the nature , appearance , or pale brown color of raw or unbleached stuff , as of Silk ,linen or thelike, characteristic brownish color.

INVOLUCRE.-----In certain liverworts, a tissue that grows around the embryo

KEEL ------ Any ridge -like process . Something resembling a ships Keel.

LOBES.------- Any rounded division or projection of an organ , especially of a leaf.

PALMATE- Resembling the hand with the fingers spread, ; Having Lobes radiating from a common point; The word was origionally applied to leaves with five Lobes.

PETIOLE-- ----A leaf stalk; the slender stem that supports the blade of a foliage leaf.

PETALS ----- One of the leaves of a corolla

PISTIL ----- An organ in a flower, inclosing the seed; The ovule-organ bearing the seed plant.

PINNATE- Having the leaflets or primary divisions arranged on each side of a common petiole or rachis ;- applied to ~~a~~ compound leaves as those of Hickory or an Ash.

PLAITED--------Folded; Braided; Artful; A doubling back;

RACEME-------- A cluster of flowers arranged along a stem.

SALVER-------- A plate or waiter to present something on.

SESSILE------- Low; Dwarf; Attached directly by the base; not raised upon a stalk or peduncle as a sessile leaf; One resting directly on the main stem or branch without a petiole.

SEPALS------ A leaf or division of the calyx.

SCAPE-------- A peduncle raising from the ground and bearing the fructification in its apex.

STAMENS ------ Male organ of a flower.

STIPULES-------One of the pair of appendages born[e] at the base of the leaf in many plants.

UMBEL--------- A collection of small flowers in a head .

NATURAL SETTING , Pocahontas County.

Roscoe W. Brown
Dec-13th 1941

Chapter Three.

Part 2 Sec A.) (Wild flowers of Pocahontas County)

Madder Family (Rubiaceae)

Patridge Vine, Twin-berry ; Mitchella Vine :; Squaw Berry.

(Mitchella repens)

Flowers -- Waxy, white (pink in bud)fragrant, growing in pairs at ends of branches . Calyx usually 4 lobed; corolla funnel form, about ½ in. long, the 4 spreading lobes bearded within ; 4 stamens inserted on corolla throat 1 style with 4 stigmas; the ovaries of the twinflowers united. The Style is long when the stamens are short, or vice versa .

Stem -- Slender, trailing, rooted at the joints 6 to 12 in. long, with numerous erect branches.

Leaves-- Opposite, entire, short petioled, oval or rounded, evergreen, dark, sometimes white veined.

Fruit :- A small red, edible, double berry-like drupe.

Preferred Habitat- In the Woods, in dry places, on the north hillsides.

Flowering Season . April - June ; and sometimes in the autumn.

A carpet of these dark, shining, little evergreen leaves, spread at the foot of forest trees, whether sprinkling over in June with pairs waxy cream-white, pink-tipped, velvety, lilac- scented flowers that suggest attenuated arbutus blossoms, or with coral-red berries in autumn and winter is surely one of the loveliest sights in the woods.

No woodland creeper rewards our care with greater luxuriance of growth. Growing near our homes, the Partridge vine offers an excellent opportunity for study. This specie of the Madder family is one of the most beautiful of the Pocahontas wild flowers, and is common in all parts of the County.

LOBELIA FAMILY. (Lobeliaceae)

Cardinal flower; Red Lobelia.

(Lobelia cardinalis)

Flowers-: Rich vermilion, veryrarely rose or white, 1 to 1½ in. long, numerous growing in terminals, erect, green-bracted, more or less 1 sided racemes.

Calyx- 5 cleft; corolla tubular, split down one side, 2- lipped; the lower lip with 3 spreading lobes, the upper lip with 3 spreading lobes/ 2 -lobed, erect; 5 stamens united into a tube around the style; 2 anthers with hairy tufts.

Stem - 2 to 4½ ft. high, rarely branched.

Leaves- Oblong to lance-shaped, slightly toothed, mostly sessile.

Preferred Habitat:- Wet or low ground, beside streams, ditches, and meadow runnel

Flowering Season July - September..

There is said to be about 200 different species of the Lobelia plant but only two of the species are common in Pocahontas County, the Cardinal and the Blue Lobelia,; The commonest species popularily known as Indian - Tobacco, has tiny whight to light blue flowers. The Lobelia plant has a tobacco-like odor and contains a volatile oil used in medicine.

The Indians used it in smoking mixtures.

Great Lobelia. Blue Cardinal Flower.

(Lobelia syphiliticia)

Flowers- ; Bright Blue, touched with white , fading to pale blue, abo ut 1 in. long, borne on tall, erect , leafy spike. Calyx 5 parted, the lobes sharply cut, hairy, Corolla tubular, open to base on one side , 2 lipped, irigularily 5 lobed, the petals pronounced at maturity only. Stamens 5, united by their hairy anthers into a tube around the style; ~~simple, leafy, irregular~~ larger anthers smooth.

Stem- 1 to 3 ft. high, stout, leafy, slightly hairy.

Leaves- Alternate, oblong, tapering, pointed, irregularly toothed 2 to 6 in long ½ to 2 in. wide.

Preferred Habitat- Moist or wet soil ; some times along the streams

Flowering Season- July and October.

This species of the Lobelia plant is so common in the South West ern Part of Pocahontas County , and especially on Bruffeys, and Hills Creek , that the entire neighborhood is called " LOBELIA" And the Post Office of that region of the County is called"Lobelia" after this wild flower which is found so abundantly in that neighborhood.

COMPOSITE FAMILY. (Compositae)

Iron weed; Flat Top.

(Vernonia noveboracensis)

Flower-head :- Composite of tubular florets only, intense reddish-purple thistle-like heads, borne on short, branched peduncles and forming broad, flat-clusters; bracts of involucre , brownish purple, tipped with awl shaped bristl

Stem: 3 to 9 ft high rough or hairy branched.

Leaves:- Alternate, narrowly oblong or lance-olate , saw-edged, 3 to 10 in. long , and rough.

Preferred -Habitat.-Moist Soil, damp meadow fields.

Flowering Season - July - September.

The Iron-weed is one of the beautiful wild flowers , that brighten the roadsides and low meadows throught the summer with bright clusters of bloom When it is on the wane, the asters, for which it is sometimes mistaken, begin to appear , but an instants comparison shows the difference between the two flowers. After noting the yellow disk in the center of the aster, it is not likely the iron-weed, s thistle like head ofray floretsonly will ever again be confused with it. Another rank growing neighbor with which it has been comfounded by the novice is the Joe-Pye Weed, a far paler, old-rose colore flower, as one does not meet them both afield may see on comparing the colored plates in the botaiical books.

This wild flower is found mostly in the low altitudes of Pocahontas County; in the wet pasture lands .

Joe-Pye Weed; Trumpets Weed; Purple Thoroughwort; Gravel or Kidney-root; Tall or Purple Boneset.

(Eupatorium purpureum)

Flower- heads-- Pale or dull magenta or lavender pink, slightly fragrant, of tubular florets only, very numerous, in large, terminals , loose, compound clusters, generally elongated. Several series of pink overlapping bracts form the oblong involucre from which the tubular florets and its protruding fring of style- branches arise.

Stem-: 3 to 10 ft. high green or purplish, leafy usually branching toward top.

Leaves-: In whorls of 3 to 6 usually 4, oval to lance-shaped , saw edged, peticled, thin, rough.

Preferred Habitat:- Moist soil, meadows, woods, and low ground.

Towering above the surrounding vegitation of low lying meadows this vigorous composite spreads clusters of soft, fringy bloom that, however deep or pale the tint, are ever conspicious advertisements, even when the golden-rods, sunflowers, and asters enter into close competition for insect trade. This worthless , and beautiful flower that is so common in all parts of Pocahontas County especially in low meadows ; received its name from an Indian medicine-man , of the New England Colonies , by the name of Joe-Pye , who earned fame and fortune by curing typhus fever and other dreaded diseases with decoctions made from this plant.

Boneset;

Boneset; Common Thoroughwort; Agueweed; Indian Sage.

(Eupatorium perfoliatum)

Flower-heads. - Composite , the numerous small, dull, white heads of tubular florets only , crowded in spreading , flat-topped terminal cymes .

Stem:- Stout , tall, branching above, hairy, leafy.

Leaves-: Opposite, often united at their bases . or clasping, lance -shaped, saw-edged, wrinkled.

Preferred Habitat.- Wet ground , low meadows road sides .

Flowering Season. July -- September.

This is a very peculiar wild flower and plant ; sometimes the stem appears to run through the cemter of one large leaf that is kinky in the middle and taper-pointed at both ends , rather than between two leaves. Old-fashioned illness known as "break bone fever" doubtless paralleled to day by the grip- once had its terrors for a patient increased ahundred fold by the certainty he felt of taking nauseous doses of bone set tea, administered by zelous old women outside the " regular practice . Children had to have their noses held before they would - or indeed , could- swallow the decoction

This weed was used by the Indians as medicine , and was by them introduced to the white men . It was used by the Chippawa Indians as a charm It has the properties of Quinine.

Golden Rod.

(Solidago)

The Golden Rod Wild flower is by far the most popular of all the Composite Family of wild flowers in Pocahontas County.

This is a handsome wayside plant of the genus (Solidago) Which in late summer or early autumn bears panicles of yellow flowers . One species has white blossoms. Most of the 125 species are native of North America. With the Aster, which bloom at the same time , the Golden Rod makes the last showy wild flower display in many parts of the country, and is so familiar every - where that some of the States - Alabama, Kentucky, Nebraska, and North Carolina- have chosen it for the State Flower ; In Europe the Golden Rod is cultivated in gardens . Some species were formerly used for making yellow dye , and were called " Dyers Weeds "

Along shady roadsides and in moist woods and thickets, from Auguat to October The Blue -stemed, Wreath, or Woodland Golden -rod (S. caesia) sways an unbranched stem with a bluish bloom on it.

When these flowers transforms whole acres into " fields of the cloth of gold " the slender wands swaying by every roadside, and Purple Asters add the final touche of beauty and splendor to the Autumn landscape. This wild flower of Pocahontas County is found in both low and high altitudes . especially in meadows , and pastur e lands.

Golden Aster

(Chrysopsis mariana)

Flower-heads - Composite, yellow, 1 in wide or less, a few corymbed flowers on glandular stalks; each composed of perfect tubular disk florets surrounded by pistilate ray florets; the involucre campanulate, its narrow bracts overlapping in several series.

Stem-: Stout , silky, hairy when young, nearly smoothe later, 1 to 2½ ft. tall

Leaves ;- Alternate, oblong to spatulate, entire.

Preferred Habitat - Dry soil, or sandy, soil.

Flowering Season- August- September.

Whoever comes upon clumps of these handsome flowers by the dusty roadside cannot but be impressed with the appropriatness of their generic name (Chryses - Gold)

This is a beautiful wild flower of Pocahontas County , but is not as common as other species of the Composite Golden Rod family.

Daisy Fleabane; Sweet Scabious.

(Erigeron annuus)

Flower-heads - Numerous, daisy-like, about ½ in across; from 40 to 70 long, fine, white rays (or purple or pink tinged) arranged around yellow disk flosets in a rough, hemispheric cup whose bracts overlap.

Stem- Erect, 1 to 4 ft high, branching above, with spreading, rough hairs.

Leaves:- Thin, lower ones ovate, coarsely toothed, petioled ; upper ones sessile, becoming smaller, lance shaped.

Preferred Habitat- : Fields waste land, and roadsides.

Flowering Season:- May to November.

At a glance one knows this flower to be a kin to Robin,s plantain, the Asters and Dasies, . That this wild flower known as Daisy Fleabane, drive away fleas, is believed only by those who have tried it out; when dried and sprinkled in dog kennels, when reduced to a powder , have been known to drive the dogs away. Hence the name Fleabane.

Black eyed Susan; Yellow or Ox-eye Daisy; Nigger-heads;

Golden Jerusalem Purple Cone -Flower.

(Rudbeckia hirta.)

Flower heads-- From 10 to 20 orange- yellow neutral rays around a conical, dark purplish-brown disk of florets containing bothh stamens and pistil.

Stem: - 1 to 3 ft. tall, hairy, rough, usually unbranched, often tufted,.

Leaves:- Oblong to lance-shaped, thick, sparingly notched, rough.

Preferred Habitat:- Open sunny places; dry fields.

Flowering Season- : May -- September.

So very many weeds have come to our Eastern shores from Europe, and marched and marched farther amd farther west each year, it is but fair that black-eyed Susan, a native of Western Clover fields, should travel Eastward to the Atlantic in bundles of Hay whenever she gets a chance , to repay Eastern - farmers in their own coin. This black eyed Susan is a native of our Western United States; but have become prime favorites of later years in European gardens so offering them still another chance to overrun the Old World, to which so much American hay is shipped;

Thrifty farmers may decry the importation into their mowing lots, but there is a glory to the cone -flower besides the glitter of gold fades into paltry nothingness.

Any one who has had a jar of these yellow daisies standing on a polished table indoors, and tried to keep its surface free from a ring of golden dustaround the flowers, knows how abundant their pollen is. The Black eyed Susan , like the English Sparrow has come to Stay in Pocahontas County.

Yarrow; Old Man,s Pepper; Nosebleed.

(Achillea Millefolium)

Flower heads:- Grayish -white, rarely pinkish, in a hard, close, flat-topped compound cluster. Ray florets 4 to 6 , pistillate, fertile; disk florets yellow, afterwards brown, perfect, fertile.

Stem:- Erect, from horizontal root-stalk , 1 to 2 ft. high, leafy, sometimes hairy. Leaves:- Very finely dissected.

Preferred Habitat:- Waste land, dry fields, banks , roadsides , especially in meadows in dry rocky land.

Flowering Season :-- June -- November.

Every where in Pocahontas County this commonest of common weeds confronts us;the compact, dusty-looking clusters appearing not by waysides only, around the world, but in the mythology, folk-lore, medicine, and literature of many peoples. As a love charm; as an herbtea brewed by crones to cure divers ailments, from loss of hair to the ague; as an inducement to nosebleeding for the relief of conjective headache;as an ingredient of an especially intoxicating beer made by Swedes, it is mentioned in old books. Nowadays we are satisfied merely to admier the feathery masses of lace-like foliage formed byyoung plants, to whiff the wholesome, nutty, autumnal odor of its flowers, or to wonder at the marvelous scheme it employs to overrun the earth. This yarrow plant at one time was considered a pest to the farmers of Pocahontas County , and it was dug up in the meadows; and whilethe flower is very beautiful , it is one of the most worthless of all the Composite wild flowers of Pocahontas County. It was naturalized from Europe.

Dogs or Foetid Camomile: Mayweed; Pigs-sty Daisy ; Dillweed; Dog-fennel.

(Anthemis Cotula (Maruta Cotula)

Flower-heads :- Like small dasies, about 1 in. broad; 10 to 18 white notched neutral ray florets around a convex Or conical yellow disk , whose florets are fertile containing both stamens and pistil, tubular, 1 to 2 ft. high, leafy with unpleasant odor and acrid taste.

Leaves:- Very finely dissected into slender segments.

Preferred Habitat: Roadsides, dry waste land, sandy fields.

Flowering Season-: June -- November.

Dog, used as a prefix by several of the plants folk - names, implies contempt for its worthliness. It is an other species, the Garden-Camomile (A nobilis), which furnishes the apothecary with those flowers whihh, when steeped into a bitter, aromatic tea, have been supposed for generations to make a superior tonic and blood purifier.

This Dog-fennel plant mostly on wet sour land, it is a beautiful flows but is a worthless plant.

Common Daisy; White weed; Oxeye- Daisy; Marguerita; Love-me; Love-me- Not.

(Chrysanthemum Laucanthemum)

Flower -heads- Disk- florets yellow, tubular, 4 or 5 toothed, containing stamens and pistil; surrounded by white ray florets, which are pistillate, fertile

Stem:- Mostly oblong in outline, coursely toothed and divided.

Preferred Habitat:- Meadows, Pastures, Roadsides, waste land, grows every where in the open, will not survive in the woods or in the shade of timber.

Flowering Season :- May - November.

Myriads and myriads of dasies, whiten many of the fields of Pocahontas County as if a blizzard had covered them with a snowy mantle in June and fills the farmers with dismay; while the flowers are filled with rapture as they behold their beauty.

At one time the farmers of Pocahontas County, thought that Oxeye Dasies was an aweful pest and would ruin their land, and fields of meadows, but later it was conceded that when a field of Ox-eye Daisies were plowed under it was a good soil builder ;

The Ox-eye Daisy is said to be an naturalized immigrant from Europe.

It is among the most conspicuous of flowers.

Tansy; Bitter-buttons.

(Tanacetum vulgare)

Flower-heads- Small, round, of tubular florets only, packed within a depressed involucre, and born in flattopped corymbs.

Stem-: 1½ to 3 ft. tall, leafy.

Leaves: - Deeply and pinnately cleft in narrow, toothed divisions; strong scented.

Preferred Habitat:- Roadsides ; commonly escaped from gardens.

Flowering - Season:- July - September

Tansy tea, in short cured every ill that the that heir flesh is heir to, according to simple faith of many of the early settlers - and faith still surviving in many old women even to this day . In the early settlement it was believed that to soak Tansy leaves in buttermilk for nine days , and then applied, it would make the complexion very fair.

So great credence having been given to its medicinal powers in Europe it is not strange the colonists felt they could not live in the New World without Tansy. Strong-scented pungent tufts topped with bright yellow buttons- runaways from old gardens- are conspicuous feature along many a roadside leading to colonial homesteads. This Tansy plant is Naturalized from Europe.